Sinclair stations use public airwaves free of charge, hence, by law, they are required to serve the public interest. However, control of the airwaves by huge companies does not serve democracy. I strongly believe that forcing stations to broadcast the anti-Kerry program so shortly before the November election is evidence of the harmful consequences of media consolidation.

We do not want something produced at far-off "News Central" but rather mored relevant news about issues that matter, transmitted to us by real people from our own communities. Please take the example of Sinclair's dangerous actions as a reason to strengthen media ownership regulations, not debilitate them. Surely the license renewal process is deserving of something more than a returned postcard.

Thank you for your kind attention, Halina Minadeo, Ph.D, University of Michigan-Dearborn